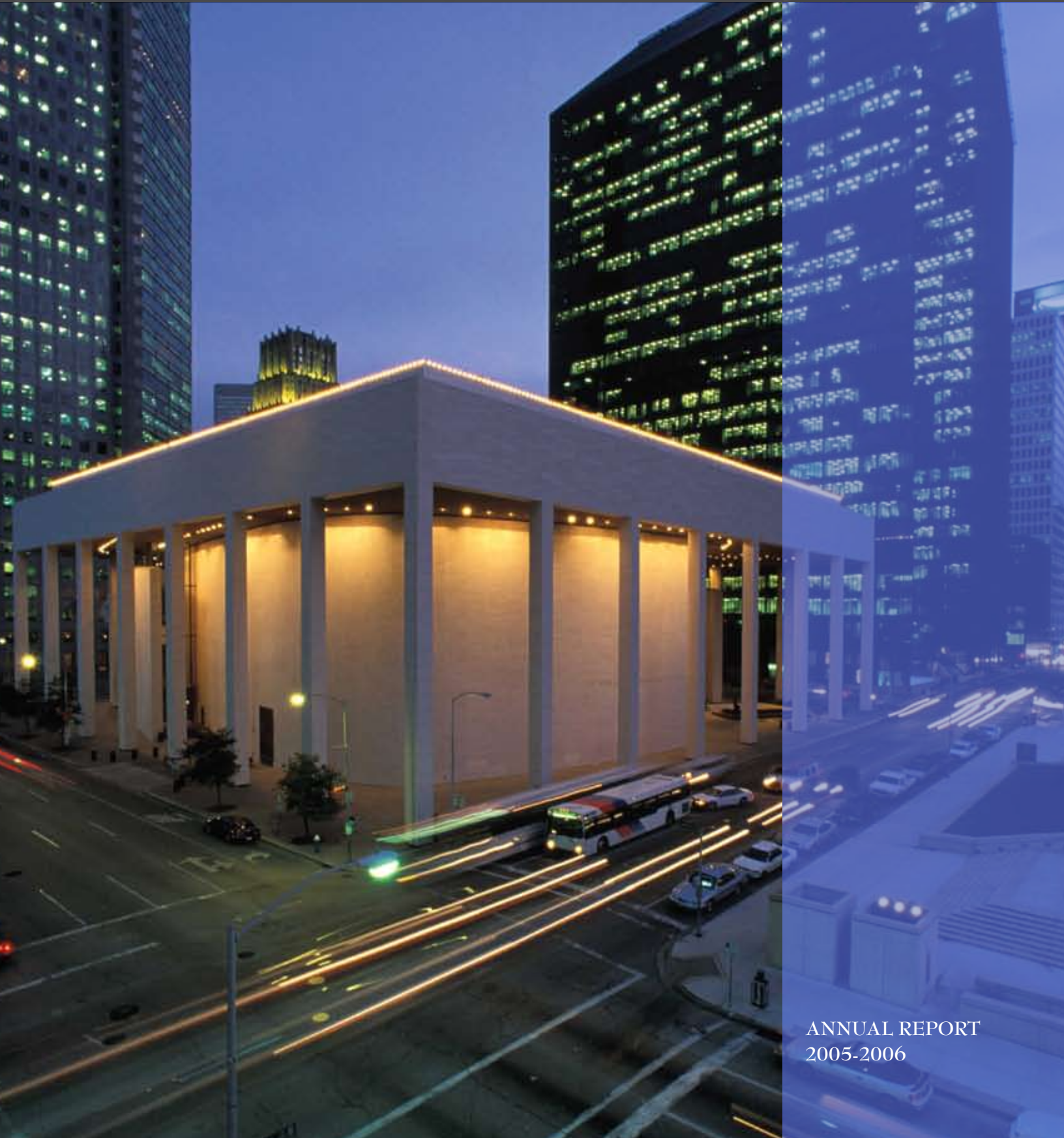


HOUSTON SYMPHONY

HANS GRAF
MUSIC DIRECTOR



ANNUAL REPORT
2005-2006



SPEC'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

**John and Lindy Rydman
CO-OWNERS**

**SPEC'S WINES SPIRITS &
FINER FOODS**

Both music education majors, John and Lindy Rydman met at North Texas State University and married in 1971. After graduating the next year, the couple moved to Houston to work with Lindy's parents, Carroll (Spec) and Carolynn Jackson at Spec's Liquors. They became co-owners of Spec's in 1996 after the death of the Jacksons. Under their leadership, Spec's Wines, Spirits & Finer Foods has grown to new heights with the recent expansion of the downtown store and the addition of more neighborhood stores in Houston and surrounding areas.

In 1996, the Rydmans founded the Spec's Charitable Foundation and made education a priority. That same year, the Rydmans solicited help from the wine and liquor industry and created the Vintage Virtuoso fundraiser to benefit the Houston Symphony. Vintage Virtuoso has been a successful event raising more than \$655,000 in direct financial and \$1-million in in-kind support for the Houston Symphony to date.

"As a boy, listening to symphonic music took me to places and times I could only dream about. Today, listening to the talented musicians of the Houston Symphony reminds me of why I still love good music and why we must ensure the Symphony's future for other dreamers," John said.

